

U.S.S.N. 09/171,625
KÖSTER *et al.*
AMENDMENT

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cont.

dissolved in the presence of tetramethylsilane as internal standard, unless otherwise stated. ^{31}P NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Gemini 200 instrument. Internal standard: phosphoric acid in the solvent used for the sample ($\delta = 0.00$ ppm), Chemical shifts are given in ppm. Mass spectra were obtained on a Finnigan MAT 311A mass spectrometer under EI conditions, a VG Analytical 70-250S mass spectrometer under FAB conditions (matrix: 3-nitrobenzyl alcohol, Xenon bombardment) and a Finnigan MAT Vision 2000 mass spectrometer under MALDI-TOF conditions (matrix solution: 0.7 mol/ 13-hydroxy picolinic acid and 0.07 mol/ 1 ammonium citrate in acetonitrile/ water, 1/1, v/v). Elementary analyses were performed by the analytical department of the Institute of Organic Chemistry, University of Hamburg. Thin layer chromatography (tlc) was carried out on 60 PF₂₅₄ silica gel coated alumina sheets (Merck, Darmstadt, No 5562). Trityl and sugar containing compounds are visualized with sugar spray reagent (0.5 ml 4-methoxybenzaldehyde, 9 ml ethanol, 0.5 ml concentrated sulfuric acid and 0.1 ml glacial acetic acid) by heating with a fan or on a hot plate. p-Nitrophenyl ester containing compounds are visualized by ammonia vapour. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel from Merck. HPLC results were obtained on a Waters chromatography systems 625 LC with a photodiodearray detector 996 and using reversed phase columns (WATERS NOVA-PAK C18[®] (octadecyl silica gel column, 60 Å, 4 µm particles, 3.9 x 300mm, software: MILLENIUM[®] 2.0, eluants were: 0.1 M triethylammonium acetate at pH 7.0 (A) and acetonitrile (B); the column was equilibrated at 30°C at 1ml per min, with 95% A/ 5% B, v/v, with elution using a linear gradient from 5% to 40% B in 40 min, monitored at 254 nm). Spectrophotometric measurements in the UV/ Vis region were performed on a Beckman UV35 and a LKB Ultrospec Plus UV/ Vis spectrophotometer. Solvents were dried and purified before use according to standard procedures. Extractions were monitored by tlc to optimize completion of extraction.

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cont.
15. (Amended) A process of claim 12, wherein the linkage is cleavable under acidic, alkaline, neutral or photolytic conditions.

16. (Amended) A process of claim 15, wherein the linkage is selected from trityl ether, ester, β -benzoylpropionyl, levuliny, disulfide and sulfenyl.

A5
26. (Amended) A combinatorial library selected from nucleosides and nucleotides, wherein each compound has from 3 to 10 reactive moieties having blocking groups on the reactive moieties, wherein at least three blocking groups are independently removable under different conditions, thereby allowing selective derivatization after deblocking, and wherein one reactive moiety is utilized for immobilization.

27. (Amended) A combinatorial library according to claim 26, wherein the compounds of the library are oligonucleotides.

28. (Amended) A combinatorial library of claim 26 in which at one or more positions in the sequence a preselected set of building blocks is incorporated.

REMARKS

A check for a three month extension of time (\$445 - small entity) accompanies this response. Status as a Small Entity reducing fees to one-half is hereby claimed in this application. Any fees that may be due in connection with this application may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1213. If a Petition for extension of time is needed, this paper is to be considered such Petition.

A Change of Address Notification accompanies this amendment.

Claims 4, 11-16 and 26-36 are presently pending in this application: Claims 1-3, 5-10 and 17-25 are cancelled herein without prejudice or disclaimer solely in the interest of advancing the prosecution of this application to allowance. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications directed to any cancelled subject matter.